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JOHN THOMAS MASEN

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-107261)

DATE: 2/14/64

FROM : SAC, DALLAS (105-1280) (P)

SUBJECT: "MINUTEMEN"
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(IS)
(OO: KANSAS CITY)

Rebuairtel 1/16/64 to SAC, Albany.

A review of the files of the Dallas Office, and investigation conducted to date through informants, sources, and reliable contacts, has revealed no evidence of any unit or organized activity on the part of subject organization in the Dallas Division either currently or in the past.

As a consequence no report is being submitted at this time but investigation is continuing in this case, and in what may be related cases as mentioned hereinafter.

There follows possibly pertinent information gleaned from a review of the Dallas files and current investigation which will serve as a basis for continued investigation to determine specifically whether captioned organization is active in any manner, or has any adherents of moment in this territory making effort, overt or otherwise, to establish activity here.

2 - Bureau
2 - Kansas City (62-7797)
1 - Houston (62-1802) (Info)
1 - El Paso (Info)
10 - Dallas (2 - 105-1686)
 (2 - 105-1264)
 (2 - 105-1475)
 (2 - 157-218)
 (2 - 105-1280)

RLW:em
(16)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/25/97 BY 566.8 Subject
(JFK)

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105-1686-38

DL 105-1280

appear to be extremely fearful that the United States is in imminent danger of a communist take-over either directly or through surrender of the United States surrendering its armed forces to the United Nations. These fears appear to be based upon information being put out by the American Eagle Publishing Company of Dallas, Texas, owned by former General EDWIN A. WALKER and based upon the State Department document "Freedom from War." All of these individuals insist that they have no intention of overthrowing the United States Government at any time, however, admit that if this organization came under the control of an unreliable person it could become a possible danger to the United States. It was noted that in recent interviews with these individuals they appeared to be somewhat relieved by the strong action taken by the present administration in Cuba and are no longer as firmly convinced that the present administration is preparing to betray this country.

It was admitted by BOTELLO and BURCHWELL that this organization at one time had considered affiliation with the "Minutemen"; however, they are no longer connected with this organization but are acting independently in the Dallas area since they were not satisfied with the leadership of ROBERT DE PUGH.

The Dallas file in the case entitled "UNNAMED ORGANIZATION OF DALLAS, TEXAS, PATRIOTS; INFO CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY); OO: DL; Bufile 100-439412, Dallas file 105-1475, is being reopened for a determination of the present status of this group and a reinterview of DONALD G. KEMP and others as warranted and appropriate. Any information pertinent to instant investigation which is obtained will be reported in the instant case, as well as in the Unnamed Organization file.

On 11/16/61, WILLIAM JAMES LOWERY, JR., a member of the Communist Party from 1943 to 1963, and who furnished information to the FBI during this period, and DL-16-S, advised SA W. HARLAN BROWN that they had no information concerning the "Minutemen" organization and that this organization was unknown to them.

DL 105-1280

On 11/27/61, DL-6-S was contacted by SA W. HARLAN BROWN and reported no knowledge of the "Minutemen" organization operating or organizing in this area.

On 11/30/61, former DL-17-C and former PCI (RAC) EARL E. HARVEY, advised SA JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., they had no information to the effect that there was any organization known as "Minutemen" in this area. Both advised that in the event information of this kind was obtained it would be transmitted to the Dallas Office of the FBI.

On 12/6/61, JACK REVILL, Intelligence Unit, Dallas Police Department, advised SA JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., his office had no record of "Minutemen" and knew of no branch of that organization operating in this area. Lt. REVILL stated that an article appeared in one of the Dallas daily newspapers to the effect that an organization had been formed in the Los Angeles area, but that no information had been received that the organization was operating in Dallas.

On 8/23/62, former DL-18-S was being interviewed in connection with an applicant investigation by SA JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., at which time he volunteered the information that he had been in contact with the National Indignation Convention (NIC), which has been identified as being affiliated with the John Birch Society.

Former DL-18-S advised that he was able to determine that ROBERT DE PUGH of Missouri was in contact with the NIC on several occasions attempting to solicit the aid of that organization and to recruit members of the NIC to his group. He indicated that the leadership of the NIC did not want to have anything to do with DE PUGH and refused to cooperate with him; however, some individuals, whose names he did not care to divulge did indicate a desire to form an organization similar to the "Minutemen."

According to former DL-18-S, most of these individuals are either members of the John Birch Society or former members of the John Birch Society who have become disgusted with merely writing letters and similar type activities, and they feel

DL 105-1280

a news reporter of the "Dallas Times Herald" who inquired of him as to existence of a group in Dallas known as "Minutemen."

On 1/4/64, DL-119-R, reported that BILL WILLIAMS, Texarkana, Texas, Grand Dragon, Association of Arkansas Klans of the Ku Klux Klan, had been asked by one CHANDLER of the Arkansas State Police for an up-to-date list of active Klan members so that these could be considered in the police auxilliary known as the "Minute Men."

On 1/22/64, DL-119-R, advised that the organization associated with the Association of Arkansas Klans of the Ku Klux Klan is not affiliated with any other organization except the Klan in Arkansas even though it is known by the name of "Minutemen." DL-119-R stated that this group had no affiliation or association with any other organization of the same name, and he stated he had never heard of the organization in Missouri.

On 2/6/64, Lt. JACK REVILL, Intelligence Unit, Dallas Police Department, advised SA RICHARD L. WIEHL, that he had no knowledge of any "Minutemen" organization in the Dallas area. He advised, however, that on October 17, 1963 two individuals were questioned in reference to a quantity of narcotics found in their possession. These individuals advised they were delivering the narcotics as a part of a medical build-up of "Minutemen" supplies. They advised they were en route from the western United States and making pick-ups of these supplies en route to Florida. No details were obtained from these individuals regarding point of pick-up or location of final destination.

Lt. REVILL identified these two above listed individuals as LORAN EUGENE HALL and WILLIAM HOUSTON SEYMOUR. HALL is subject of Bufile 105-78016, entitled "LOREN EUGENE HALL, INTERNAL SECURITY - NICARAGUA, REGISTRATION ACT - NICARAGUA," Dallas file 2-68. Communications mentioning SEYMOUR have also been directed to the Bureau in the HALL case.

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